

JAMES R. MARTIN AND OTHERS

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FEBRUARY 25, 1958.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

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Mr. BURDICK, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 9992]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9992) for the relief of James R. Martin and others, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

This proposed legislation was submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives by the Department of the Navy and referred to this committee for consideration. After a careful review of the bill and report your committee recommend favorable consideration be given the bill. The executive communication is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, D. C., November 21, 1957.

Hon. SAM RAYBURN,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. SPEAKER: There is enclosed a draft of proposed legislation for the relief of James R. Martin and others.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

The purpose of this proposed legislation is to extend relief to certain specified disbursing officers and former disbursing officers of the United States Navy for losses due to erroneous payments made by them. The amounts listed next to name of the officers concerned represent moneys paid by those officers from their personal funds to liquidate deficiencies incurred in their accounts. The deficiencies resulting from the erroneous payments were not incurred as a result of

bad faith on the part of the disbursing officers, nor were they caused by a lack of due care on their part.

The officers listed in the draft bill are in the category of disbursing officers who would be relieved of responsibility and accountability to repay the sums erroneously overpaid by them, pursuant to Public Law 365 of the 84th Congress. However, since they have already liquidated their deficiencies by payments made out of their personal funds, relief from accountability under Public Law 365 would accomplish no useful purpose.

Private relief legislation which would authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to reimburse the disbursing officers is the only means by which overpayments can be recovered.

#### COST AND BUDGET DATA

The cost to the Government of this legislation will be \$306.38.

The Department of the Navy has been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there would be no objection to the submission of this proposal to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

J. SINCLAIR ARMSTRONG,  
*Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management).*

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